Oral Communication

Examination Syllabus
Beginners Level to Associate Diploma
To be used in conjunction with the Guild Handbook

Australian Guild of Music Education
21/08/2010 version 01A
The GUILD

Music & Speech Education System

Australian Guild of Music Education Inc – A0010797V

The Australian Guild, Music and Speech Education System can be broadly divided into two sections:

- Public Examinations for music and speech/drama students from beginner to advanced (Licentiate and Fellowship diplomas)
- Tertiary Courses with Certificate, Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses for the music industry and Bachelor of Music degree for advanced music training

The public examinations are administered by The Australian Guild of Music Education, Public Examinations Division. These examinations cover practical music, music performance, music theory, practical speech and drama, speech and drama theory, oral communication, spoken language development and choric speaking. The printed syllabi for each type of examination, together with a wide-ranging series of publications forms a comprehensive instructional system to aid teachers in developing the skills of their students. The examinations provide recognition for the student's work and teacher recognition is achieved through the Australian Guild Teachers Register.

The Creative Skills and Higher Educations programs covering courses in music to Certificate IV (CUS40101), Diploma (CUS50101) and Advanced Diploma (CUS60101) and Bachelor of Music degree (V0004629) are provided by the Australian Guild of Music Education, Tertiary Course Division. The AGMED is a Registered Training Organisation approved to deliver these courses in all States of Australia. All the courses are on the National Qualifications Register and may be completed by distance education. Video-tapes and DVDs ensure that students everywhere receive “live” instruction. Tapes and DVDs of tutorial centre sessions are dispatched directly to remote students together with written material.

In the Higher Education Program Bachelor of Music degree, articulation agreements may be arranged with other Universities for students who wish to continue their studies beyond a first degree. The Bachelor course, like the others, may be completed by distance education, the Kooyong campus and video material providing the appropriate contact between tutors and students.

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The Australian Guild of Music Education is a music education body dedicated entirely to Distant Education and Tertiary Courses (AGMED (Conservatorium and Faculty of Music) and the AGMED (Public Examination sector) which caters for public examinations in music.

**The GUILD encompasses both bodies.**

The Australian Guild of Music and Speech was/is primarily an examining body in the fields of music and speech.

**HISTORICAL INFORMATION**

The AGMS was formed in 1969 and has Syllabi in all traditional areas. The Guild was the first body to evolve an Electronic Organ Syllabus, a Digital Keyboard Syllabus, a Modern Piano Syllabus and modern Woodwind, Brass and Guitar Syllabi. These modern syllabi have all been very successful. The Guild still unequivocally leads in these areas.

The AGMED (Public examination sector) through an Australia wide system of Graded examinations aims to develop music and speech education and skills by promoting uncompromising standards of education in both performing and teaching. To that end, all AGMED Syllabi whether traditional or contemporary have been formulated to promote those ideals. AGMED Syllabi have been innovatively enhanced to allow candidates and teachers full access to a large selection of works in order to progress to their full potential. AGMED Syllabi offer the concept of OWN CHOICE in any List and in any practical subject area on the basis that no one person is the same as another.

Many different physical, mental and emotional factors sometimes cause the withdrawal of a candidate’s musical interest when confronted with an uncompromising selection of works, as so often happens in many syllabi.

The official Syllabi of the AGMD are designed to meet the needs of private Teachers, Professional Musicians and Educational Institutions, as well as to cater for those whose desire is to pursue the study and practice of their art chiefly for its aesthetic and spiritual values, if not for professional reasons. Because of the character of the AGMED constitution as revealed in the ‘Articles of Association’ the body is particularly suited for such a purpose. Therefore their Lists will be found to be comprehensive, catering for the academically minded, the performing artist and for those who seek recreation, cultured self expression and the development of a rewarding and satisfying professional life.

The AGMED conducts many thousands of practical and theory examinations every year throughout Australia, Singapore, Malaysia and in Sabah and Sarawak in Borneo. Malaysia has centres in Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh (North), Penang (Nth West) as well as in the Eastern areas of the country. Additionally, Sabah across the China Sea in North Borneo at Copa, Kinabalu is also a very strong base of Guild activity. Brunei is another successful Centre. An initiative to commence examinations in mainland China is already under way.

**PUBLICATIONS OUT OF PRINT**

It is inevitable in any Contemporary Syllabus that publications change and some will go out of print within a space of time. This is unfortunate but a circumstance over which we have no control.

**TERTIARY PROFESSIONAL COURSES**

In addition the Guild offer a complete music program to the dedicated student and can offer either by Distance or attendance a range of professional courses in music all fully accredited.

**VET Level** courses include Certificate 1-1V, Diploma and Advanced Diploma. The new government Fee Help scheme is expected to be available in mid year for Diploma and Advanced Diploma students

**Higher Education Bachelor of Music** program is available and offers immediate access to Government FEE HELP. This is not Means Tested.

AUSTUDY is available for all courses.

*Contact the Guild office 03 9822 3111 or the Dean Mobile 0412 327 665, or write to Guild 451 Glenferrie Road, Kooyong Victoria 3122 AUSTRALIA, or visit our WEB SITE  [www.guildmusic.edu.au](http://www.guildmusic.edu.au)*
# AUSTRALIAN GUILD OF MUSIC EDUCATION

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BEGINNER’S LEVEL

1. RECITATION – VERSE 25 Marks

To recite from memory a verse taken from an Australian Anthology.
*Time Limit is one minute.*

2. READING 20 Marks

To read a prepared passage from a simple story-book.
*Time limit is one minute.*

3. FIND THE WORD

SOUNDS 10 Marks

The examiner will say one consonant sound and the candidate will say a word beginning with the same
consonant sound – for example the examiner might say the sound of the consonant “B” to which candidate
would answer “bread”.
Five consonant sounds will be given.

RHYMES 10 Marks

The examiner will say a one-syllable word and the candidate will say a word that rhymes with the word
spoken by the examiner – for example the examiner might say “fish” to which the candidate may answer
“dish”.
Five words will be spoken.

4. MIME 15 Marks

The candidate will present a prepared mime of one of the following actions.

Climbing a ladder.
Walking the dog.
Cleaning the teeth.
Waking up.
Picking a flower.
Reading a book.

5. STORY 20 Marks

The candidate will tell a story. This may be an original story, a story the candidate has read or a story
about an event in the candidate’s own life.
*Time limit is 2 Minutes.*
LEVEL ONE

1. RECITATION 25 Marks

The Candidate will present a memorized poem or prose selection suited to the age of the competitor. Time Limit is 2 minutes.

2. READING 20 Marks

The reading will be taken from one prepared chapter of a simple novel chosen and previously read by the candidate. The examiner will choose a passage of approximately 100 words.

3. MIME 20 Marks

The mime may be devised from an incident in the novel chosen for the reading

OR

The candidate will mime playing a favourite game such as cricket or snakes and ladders. Time limit is 90 seconds.

4. TALK 20 Marks

The talk will take the form of a self-introduction. The candidate may talk about his or her skills, likes and dislikes, experiences and so on.

OR

The topic may be “My favourite television program”. Time Limit is two minutes.

5. CONVERSATION 15 Marks

The examiner will open the conversation with a question related to one of the above presentations. Time limit is two minutes.
LEVEL TWO

1.  RECITATION  20 Marks.

A memorized poem, prose excerpt or dramatic characterization by an Australian writer is to be presented. The selection may be humorous and must be suited to the age of the competitor. Time limit is two and one half minutes.

2.  TALK  20 Marks.

This should be a prepared talk on either the candidate’s hobby or a recent holiday experience. The talk should not be memorized. One or two aids may be used. Time limit is 2 minutes.

3.  IMPROMPTU SPEAKING  10 Marks.

The examiner will suggest a word and the candidate will give a one-minute talk on ideas associated with the given word.

4.  TELEPHONE PROCEDURE  15 Marks.

The candidate will discuss suitable ways of answering the telephone, how to ring a friend and how to leave a message on the answering machine. This will be a prepared instruction but the examiner may enter into the discussion at the close of the talk. Time required is between two and three minutes.

5.  MIME  15 Marks.

Learning to play tennis, ice-skate, roller skate, play golf, play an instrument, fly a kite, or any other activity of the candidate’s choice. This is prepared. Time Limit is one and one half minutes.

6.  READING  20 Marks.

The examiner will choose a passage of approximately 150 words from a novel previously read by the candidate. The novel must be brought to the examination room.
LEVEL THREE

1. RECITATION 25 Marks.

A memorized poem, prose selection or dramatic selection to be presented. The writer may be Australian or other. The item must be suited to the age of the competitor.
Time limit is three minutes.

2. READING 20 Marks.

The candidate will read a passage of approximately 150 words from a novel chosen by and previously read by the candidate. The reading may include dialogue and the candidate will be expected to vary the vocal interpretation of the characters represented.

3. STORY-TELLING 15 Marks.

The examiner will show the candidate two objects and the candidate will relate an impromptu story using these two objects as significant features in the story.
Preparation time allowed is one minute.
Time limit of the story is 2 minutes.

4. VOCABULARY 10 Marks.

The examiner will say a word and the candidate will be asked to give two more words having the same meaning that may be substituted for the given word.
For example- the examiner may say the word “speak” and the candidate might then say “talk” & “utter”.
There will be five separate words asked.

5. PREPARED TALK 20 Marks.

This talk will take the form of an instruction and explain to the listeners the correct procedure for developing the ability to play a sport, create an object or acquire a certain skill. The candidate should choose the topic based on his/her own expertise.
Time limit is three minutes.

6. CONVERSATION 10 Marks.

The examiner and the candidate will discuss the examination program with comments on the choice of recitation, novel and instructive talk.
Time limit is 2 minutes.
LEVEL FOUR

1. RECITATION  25 Marks.

The candidate will present a memorised selection of verse, prose or drama. It should be of suitable literary standard and appropriate for the age of the candidate.
Time limit is three minutes.

2. READING  20 Marks.

The Reading will be approximately 200 words from an Australian novel.
It will be an impromptu reading and chosen by the examiner.

3. IMPROMPTU TALK  20 Marks.

Association of Ideas.
From a word given by the examiner, the candidate will give four words in succession, each word having been inspired for its association with the previous word only.
The candidate will give a two-minute talk using the fourth word as the topic.
For example – Examiner’s word could be “mouse”.
The candidate’s sequence then could be “clock – punctuality – transport”.
Some care should be taken to avoid too close an association such as “mouse – trap – cheese – caught”,
where all of the words are related to the same act.

4. DISCUSSION ON TECHNICAL WORK  15 Marks.

The candidate will give a prepared discussion on the correct method of breathing for speech. A demonstration of one suitable breathing exercise is to be included.

OR

The candidate will discuss the correct ways to stand when reading aloud and giving a talk. The correct way to hold the book and to walk onto the speaking area should be demonstrated.
The examiner will choose one of the above for discussion.
Time limit is two and one half minutes.

5. IMAGINATIVE STORY  10 Marks.

The examiner will show the candidate a picture.
The candidate will tell a story using the picture as an appropriate illustration for the story

OR

The candidate will study the picture and then use descriptive language to explain what is illustrated in the picture.
Time allotted is two to three minutes.

6. CONVERSATION.  10 Marks.

The candidate comment on what books he/she likes to read, discuss other interests, tell a joke or all of the above.
This will be a seated, informal conversation.
ORAL COMMUNICATION

LEVEL FIVE

1. RECITATION  25 Marks.

The candidate will present a recitation of a lyrical poem, a prose selection from an Australian novel or a dramatic excerpt taken from a play suited to the age of the competitor.
Time limit is three and one half minutes.

2. BOOK REVIEW  20 Marks.

The candidate will present an oral book review of any book, either fiction or non-fiction.
The book must have been read and liked by the candidate.
Headline notes may be used but the review should not be memorized.
The candidate will bring the book to the examination room.
Time allotted is three to four minutes.

3. TECHNICAL CONVERSATION

(a) The examiner will discuss the importance of speech exercises in relation to speech clarity and pleasing vocal tone.
The student may have some prepared comments to offer as well as being willing to answer two or three questions.

(b) The examiner will hand the candidate a list of four speech exercises.
These may include tongue twisters, resonance and projection exercises and pitch variations.

4. READING  15 Marks.

The candidate will read a passage of approximately 250 words from a work of non-fiction chosen by the examiner. This may be instructive, informative or humorous.

5. IMPROMPTU SPEAKING  20 Marks.

The candidate will be shown a photograph of a person, animal or object.
After studying the picture for 30 seconds the candidate will invent a character study of the person shown, a possible background life for the animal or an imaginary need for the object.
Time limit is two and one half minutes.

OR

The candidate may choose to tell a humorous or a fanciful story about who or what is depicted in the picture.
Time limit is two and one half minutes.
LEVEL SIX

1. RECITATION  
   The candidate will present a recitation of a poem, prose extract or dramatic characterization.  
   The work chosen should be of a suitable literary standard for Level Six and be appropriate for the age of  
   the competitor.  
   Time limit is 3 and one half minutes.

2. READING  
   The Reading will be taken from a novel, biography or autobiography.  
   The examiner will choose.  
   Time limit is two minutes.

3. TALL STORY  
   The candidate will tell an Australian tall story or yarn. It may be based on an existing story or an original  
   composition. Suggested “Aussie” accent and broad Australian language may be used in this story.  
   OR  
   The candidate will relate a story describing his or her most embarrassing moment.  
   Time limit is two minutes for each of the above.

4. TECHNICAL CONVERSATION  
   The candidate will discuss with the examiner the importance of facial expression and eye contact in public  
   speaking.  
   The candidate may have some prepared comments on this topic as well as entering into discussion and  
   demonstration of facial expressions.  
   Time limit is three minutes.

5. PREPARED TALK  
   The candidate will present a prepared speech on one of the following topics. The speech must not be  
   memorised but cue cards may be used.  

   Prepared talk topics as follows.  
   Today’s media.  
   My school years.  
   So-called junk food.  
   The love of sport.  
   Freedom.  
   Art or science.  
   Laughter.  
   Time limit is three and one half minutes.

6. MIME  
   The candidate will present a short sketch in mime, using four words only.  
   This sketch will be motivated by a magazine picture shown by the examiner.  
   Time limit is 2 minutes.
AUSTRALIAN GUILD OF MUSIC EDUCATION
ORAL COMMUNICATION

LEVEL SEVEN

The School Leaver’s examination is an alternative to Level Seven for those students who wish to terminate their public speaking study when leaving school.

1. PREPARED SPEECH 20 Marks.

The candidate will deliver a speech – persuasive or didactic – on a topic related to Current Affairs. This talk should not be memorized but cue cards may be used. One cue card is preferred.
Time Limit is four minutes.

2. RECITATION 20 Marks.

The candidate will present a selection of memorized, descriptive prose from a novel, published article or book of essays.
Time allotted is from three to four minutes.

3. READING 15 Marks.

The reading will be taken from either an Oral Communication text-book or a book of Australian Bush Ballads.
The candidate may choose.
Time limit is three minutes.

4. TECHNICAL CONVERSATION 15 Marks.

The candidate will discuss body language and gesture in oral communication. The examiner may ask some questions.
Time limit is 3 minutes.

5. SOCIAL SPEECH 15 Marks.

The candidate will outline the procedure for giving a successful thank-you speech – 2 minutes - as well as give a two- minute talk and brief demonstration on the procedure for introducing people to one another.

6. IMPROMPTU COMMENTS 15 Marks.

The candidate will read from a newspaper article or a magazine article supplied by the examiner.
This will be followed by a short talk based on the subject matter of the article read.
Preparation time for the talk is two minutes.
Time allotted for the talk is two and one half to three minutes.
PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE

This examination consists of two parts – Practical and Theoretical. Both sections are compulsory. It is the pre-requisite for entry to the Associate Diploma in Public Speaking.

1. PREPARED TALK  
20Marks.

The candidate will deliver a prepared speech on one of the following topics:

Yesterday – today – tomorrow.  
The Advertisement.  
A chosen proverb.  
Savoir-faire.  
Expectations.  
Convention.  
Entertainment.  
Vocation.  
Addiction and obsession.  
Who are my neighbours?

Time allotted is from four to five minutes.

2. READING  
15Marks.

The candidate will read two passages, one humorous prose or verse and one informative prose. Time allotted is four minutes.

3. RECITATION.  
20 Marks

The candidate will present a memorized Australian poem, an excerpt from an Australian novel or an interesting selection from a biography of a notable Australian. Time limit is four minutes.

4. PREPARED COMMENTARY  
10 Marks.

The candidate will present an appreciation of one of the following Australian topics. This should be informative and persuasive in argument.

My favourite place on earth,  
The Australian I most admire,  
The Australian way of life.

Time limit is 3 Minutes.
Proficiency O.C. continued.

5. IMPROMPTU SPEECH 15 Marks.

The candidate will read a magazine or newspaper article chosen by the examiner. After a preparation time of two minutes, the candidate will deliver an impromptu speech debating the issues and ideas of the article. Time Limit is 3 minutes.

6. CREATIVE SPEECH – prepared. 10 Marks.

The candidate will bring a mystery object enclosed in a dark bag or box into the examination room. He or she will then describe the object, give its history, extol its assets and attempt to sell the mystery object. The object may be displayed towards or at the conclusion of the discourse.

**OR**

The candidate may choose to give a prepared and original dramatic monologue on a personal experience. Time Allotted is from three to four minutes.

7. SOCIAL SPEECH 10 Marks.

The candidate will give a welcome speech to a well-known person who is supposedly visiting his/her workplace, club, school or tertiary college. A photograph or newspaper cutting should be brought to the examination.

**OR**

The candidate will propose a vote of thanks to a well-known person either from the past or living and whose speech has been published or is available in print. The speech must be brought to the examination room. Time Limit is three minutes.
A more advanced knowledge of Speech Theory than that expected in the Level Practical examinations will be required when answering the questions set on this paper.

There will be questions chosen from the following

**The Speaker’s Voice**


**Expressiveness**


**Style of Delivery**


**Exercises for Practice**
ASSOCIATE DIPLOMA

This examination consists of two parts – Practical and Theoretical.
Both are compulsory.
The pre-requisite for the associate in oral communication is the Proficiency O.C.

1. READING AND ASSESSMENT. 10 Marks.

The candidate will read a published in a manner suitable for platform delivery. The examiner will choose the reading. One minute perusing time will be allowed for the candidate to decide on the style needed. Time Limit is three minutes.

2. CRITICAL ASSESSMENT. 10 Marks.

Taking the same speech as in section one, the candidate will be given two minutes to examine the reading further. He/she will then discuss the style, merit, argument and conclusion of the speech. Some points on the necessary approach to the spoken delivery should be included. Time allotted for the assessment is from two to three minutes.

3. SELF-APPRAISAL 10 Marks.

The candidate will present a self-appraisal, citing perhaps, some simple features, some significant events, likes, dislikes, goals in life, successes good points and so on. This is not intended to be an intrusion into any aspects of a candidate’s private life. Particulars presented are the option of the candidate. Time allotted is from three to four minutes.

4. PREPARED SPEECH 20 Marks.

The candidate will deliver a prepared speech on any topic of his choice. One cue card is permitted and memory work must be avoided. The speech must be well constructed, have a purpose, argument and appropriate conclusion. Time limit is six minutes.

5. HUMOUR 10 Marks.

The candidate will tell three humorous anecdotes, linking these into one likely or unlikely sequence. OR

The candidate may present a short memorised comic selection. Gestures, movements and character voices may be used in both of these choices. Time allotted is from two to three minutes.
6. BUSINESS and SOCIAL SPEAKING 15 Marks.

The candidate will speak knowledgeably about the procedure for conducting a meeting – business, social or committee.
Time limit is three minutes for this talk.
This will be followed by a courtesy speech from one of the following listed.
A Chairman’s Welcome,
A Presentation Speech,
A Toast to a Bride, Guest of Honour or other,
A Vote of Thanks to a member of staff.
Time Limit is three minutes.

7. CURRENT AFFAIRS 15 Marks.

The candidate will be asked to read an Editorial, leading article or topical commentary by a prominent columnist. It will be selected from a newspaper or significant magazine and concerned with current affairs.
After the reading the candidate will be given a two minute preparation time to compose thoughts on an impromptu talk motivated by the content of the article.
The overall time allotted is from four to five minutes.

8. MASTER OF CEREMONIES 10 Marks.

The candidate will discuss the duties of a master of ceremonies at one celebration such as a Wedding, Wedding Anniversary, Coming of Age, Graduation Party, School Speech Night or other.
Time Limit is 5 Minutes.
The pre-requisite for the Associate Public Speaking is either the Proficiency Oral Communication Certificate or the Speech & Drama Proficiency Certificate.

This Paper is one part of the Public Speaking Diploma.

Five questions will be asked, each carrying twenty marks and these will be taken from the following list of performance skills.

The speaker’s voice

The Style of Delivery


The Speaker’s Material


Procedures


Story-Telling.
Audience contact.
Confidence.
The pre-requisite for the Public Speaking Teaching Diploma is a credit pass in both the Practical and the Theoretical Associate Diploma of Public Speaking examinations. Because of this pre-requisite all of the above candidates will have demonstrated a suitable standard of knowledge in both the practical and theoretical aspects of the subject. It is the Teaching Ability that will be assessed in this written examination.

The following is a list of the possible matter for study needed to answer the questions set on this examination paper. It is expected that candidates will have had some personal experience in these areas.

**TECHNICAL SKILLS**
Explanations as well as suggested exercises for the subsequent issues -
Overcoming Nervous Tension – Common faults and problems – Audience contact.
Avoidance of Artifice and Pedantic speaking -
Overcoming the fear of Public Speaking –
Confidence – can self-confidence be developed – the dangers of over-confidence.
Audibility – being heard – interruptions – handling these.

**PREPARATION OF A SPEECH**
Methods of preparation of a speech and its delivery. Different ages need to be considered.
This will include – choosing the topic - the speech opening, argument, outlining of points, climax, purpose, conclusion.
Voice, speech clarity, emphasis, expressive presentation, eye contact, stance, facial expression, appearance, microphone, visual aids, *ad libbing*, entering and leaving the platform, questions, audience response.

**COMMUNICATION IN BUSINESS**

**SOCIAL SPEAKING**
Various speaking styles for different types of social speeches.

Public Speaking Teaching Certificate continued

**READING ALOUD**
Rules for Reading Aloud – Different types of reading – why do we need this skill?
Manner of holding a book – Use of the lectern – Reaching the audience.

**STORY TELLING**
The art of story telling – Putting a story together –Imagination in story telling – Conviction – Making it interesting – Animation – Characters and climax – the benefits of story-telling in teaching – the process.
MIME AND ACTING
The use of mime and acting in developing the student’s ability in public speaking.
Expression and confidence.- Aids such as masks and props. Class involvement.

IMPROPTU SPEAKING
Useful strategies in developing successful impromptu speaking.
The use of personal experience, current affairs, quotations, humour, other material.
Continuity and fluency – timing - control of mannerisms - improvisational methods - overcoming a reluctance to participate.

LESSON PLANNING – IMPORTANT
Structure of a lesson or course plan – Outline of activities – Aims and progression – Allocation of time – Variation in lesson program – Assessment - Progression – Private lessons or Group classes – Age differences and requirements – Motivation, behaviour, enjoyment, substance, satisfaction for teacher and student – Workshops – Seminars – Terms or semesters- Studio and teaching aids.

GENERAL ASPECTS OF TEACHING PUBLIC SPEAKING
How important is the study of effective oral communication today?
Discussing the value of lessons – do we need an accepted standard of speech? – negotiating through spoken language – the candidate’s personal views on all aspects of teaching public speaking – teaching methods and application – reference books.
Outlining of lesson activities, suitable material and exercises.

The above headings are suggestions only. The candidate may be asked to write about any aspect of Public Speaking that is relevant to teaching this subject.
This Examination Syllabus will be in addition to the Oral Communication for individual candidates. It will not replace the existing Spoken Language Development for Class or Group. The latter Syllabus will now be called the Spoken Language Development for Schools.

Groups for the Small Group Oral Communication will be from two to six candidates. The candidates will enter the examination room as a group and perform either singly or in a group, depending on the examination requirements. The order of performing should be chosen by the group before entering the examination room.

This examination is excellent for the student who wishes to learn how to speak meaningfully, clearly, expressively and with confidence whilst not wishing to make an in depth study of the subject as a possible career or special hobby. The gaining of the Certificate standard is an asset to all persons seeking profitable employment.

All candidates of all of the small group O.C. examinations will receive individual reports. The candidate’s ability to work as a team member will also be evaluated.

If desired, a small audience may be allowed for the Senior, Advanced and High Achievement Examinations. The teacher and students would need to agree that this would be a profitable experience for all candidates. This audience should be accommodated in the teacher’s private speech Studio or in a room provided by the school where the teacher is giving lessons. When one or two groups only are entering for the examination, the teacher will be notified of the venue.

The age level stated on the examination syllabus is a suggested age level only. Candidates of a younger age may join an older age group where required. Older students who wish to begin with a lower grade level may do so. The standard will remain that of the recommended age level.

Group size should be limited to a maximum of six members. It is recommended that the groups in the more advanced levels be limited to four members. This is latter is not compulsory.
PREPARATORY LEVEL

(SEVEN TO NINE YEARS)
Examination Time – 30 Minutes

1. PREPARED READING 25 Marks.
Each candidate will read a passage of from sixty to ninety words from a chosen novel. The novel may be the same for each member, if this is preferred.

2. PREPARED VERSE 25 Marks.
Each candidate will present a memorized poem of from eight to twelve verse lines.

3. PREPARED TALK 25 Marks.
Each candidate will give a short talk of forty to sixty seconds. The topic will be chosen from one of the following titles.
My Pet - My Room - My Favourite Game - My Favourite Television Program

4. CREATIVE MIME 25 Marks.
This will be a group performance. It may be based on any simple children’s story.
A copy of the story should be brought to the examination room.
All members of the group must be involved in the performance.

Time Limit is three minutes.
SMALL GROUP – ORAL COMMUNICATION

JUNIOR LEVEL

(TEN – ELEVEN YEARS)
Examination time - 35 Minutes

1. PREPARED READING 25 Marks.

Each candidate will read a passage of from eighty to one hundred words from a chosen novel. The passage should contain some dialogue. Individual books may be chosen or the same book for each member may be used.

2. VERSE OR PROSE 25 Marks.

Each candidate will present either a memorised Australian poem of approximately sixteen lines or a memorized short excerpt of approximately one hundred and thirty words from a favourite Australian novel.

3. PREPARED TALK 25 Marks.

Each candidate will give a short talk on a special moment or an eventful time in his/her life. Time limit is one and one half minutes.

4. CREATIVE DRAMA 25 Marks.

This is a group movement scene, incorporating mostly mime with a limit of three spoken words for each candidate. Each candidate is expected to be involved. The topic may be based on an Australian story or Australian poem. Time Limit is four minutes.
ELEMENTARY LEVEL

(TWELVE TO THIRTEEN YEARS)
Examination Time – 45 Minutes

1. READING 20 Marks.
   The examiner will select a passage of approximately one hundred and fifty to two hundred words from a novel chosen by the group. Each candidate will read a different passage. There may be individual novels or one only.

2. RECITATION 20 Marks.
   Each candidate will present a memorized verse, passage from a novel, or character monologue. Time Limit is two minutes.

3. PREPARED TALK 20 Marks.
   Each candidate will deliver a prepared talk on a Hobby or Special Interest outside of the general school studies.

4. GROUP DRAMA 20 Marks.
   This is to be an original scene to be created by the group from one of the following:
   - An incident from one of the novels chosen for the reading
   - An Aboriginal Legend
   - A Visit to the Snow
   Time Limit is four minutes.

5. CONVERSATION 20 Marks.
   The examiner will begin the conversation. This may be about the program presented or any subject arising at that moment. All group members must contribute. Time Limit is three to four minutes.
SENIOR LEVEL

(FOURTEEN TO FIFTEEN YEARS)
Examination Time – 55 Minutes

1. SIGHT READING 20 Marks.

The examiner will choose a reading for each candidate. This will be approximately two hundred words and taken from the same novel or biography.

2. RECITATION 20 Marks.

Each candidate will present a memorized story. This may be original or based on a published work. It should have a climax and hold the interest of the listeners. Time Limit is two minutes.

3. PREPARED TALK 20 Marks.

Each candidate will deliver a talk on one of the following topics:

- Sport – Player or spectator.
- Television Advertisements.
- Modern Music.
- Respect for All.
- Freedom.
- Laughter.

Time Limit is two and one half minutes.

4. CREATIVE GROUP PERFORMANCE 20 Marks.

This may be a dramatic sketch, panel lecture or spoken group story. A small number of aids or props may be used. Each candidate must take part. Speaking will be solo. Time Limit is four to five minutes, including arranging of aids.

5. CONVERSATION 20 Marks.

All members will take part in the conversation on some aspect of topical interest. Time limit is four minutes.
AUSTRALIAN GUILD OF MUSIC EDUCATION
SMALL GROUP – ORAL COMMUNICATION

ADVANCED LEVEL

(Under 18 years)
Examination Time – 65 Minutes

1. SIGHT READING 15 Marks.

Each candidate will be given a newspaper column, selected by the examiner, to read to the other members of the group.
Time Limit is two minutes.

2. RECITATION 15 Marks.

Each candidate will present a memorized selection. This may be poetry, drama or prose.
Time Limit is two and one half minutes.

3. IMPROMPTU SPEAKING 15 Marks.

Before commencing the examination the examiner will hand each candidate a picture. The candidate will be allowed thirty seconds to study the picture. He/she will then summarise the picture and give an imaginative anecdote of what the picture inspires.
Time Limit is two and one half minutes.

4. PREPARED TALK 20 Marks.

The topic for this free-choice, individual talk should allow each candidate the scope to present a persuasive argument on a matter that is important to him/her.
Time Limit is three minutes.

5. GROUP PRESENTATION 20 Marks.

This performance may be serious or humorous. It should be a prepared scene inspired by one of the following topics.

Caught Out: Junk Food: Accident Prone: A Memory Loss: Kindness:

Time Limit is five minutes.

6. CONVERSATION 15 Marks.

The examiner will discuss the program with members of the group. Questions related to the development of vocal quality, speech clarity and emphasis variation will also be asked in this discussion. Each candidate is required to contribute.
Time Limit is six minutes.
SMALL GROUP – ORAL COMMUNICATION

HIGH ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL

(Over 18 Years)

1. SIGHT READING 15 Marks.
   The examiner will ask each candidate to read a published speech or essay. This may be abridged. The Time allotted is from two to three minutes.

2. RECITATION 15 Marks.
   Each candidate will present a memorized selection from any published source. Time Limit is three minutes.

3. SOCIAL SPEAKING 10 Marks.
   Each candidate will deliver either a Welcome Speech to a Guest Speaker or a Vote of Thanks to a Guest Speaker or Demonstrator. Time Limit is two and one half minutes.

4. GROUP DISCUSSION 15 Marks.
   The examiner will give the group a topic and each member will contribute to a discussion of this issue, aiming to offer points of argument and agreement and arriving at an acceptable conclusion. Preparation Time is three minutes. Time Limit for the discussion is four minutes.

5. PREPARED TALK 15 Marks.
   Each candidate will give a prepared talk on one of the following topics:
   
   
   Time Limit is Five Minutes.
6. IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

The examiner will hand out several small newspaper or magazine articles pertaining to current happenings, either locally or world-wide. Each candidate will select one.
Three minutes preparation time will be allowed to study the article. The candidate will choose each student in turn to read his/her article aloud. When all have read, the candidates will then present a three- minute talk inspired by the article read.
The examiner will choose the order of presentation.

7. TECHNIQUE

The examiner will ask the group members in turn to give information on the following:

Projection:  Resonance:  Eye contact:  Articulation:  Cue Cards:  Stance:  Pitch and Inflection.
Time Limit is six minutes. All candidates must participate.

The number of members in this examination should not exceed four.
The time allotted for the examination is twenty minutes per candidate.